

QUICK NOTES

Our Mothers' Day Café Event

is on Thursday 23rd March, during the day, in the school hall. We will be offering timeslots to ensure the hall is not overcrowded. We will send a letter nearer the time.

The Mothers' Day sale will be

on the 21st and 22nd March. Children will have the opportunity to purchase a small gift for their mums. Information will be sent out nearer the time.

Please note that Chartwells will be increasing school meal prices to £2.20. The increase will take effect from Monday 3rd April. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still receive Universal Free School Meals.

The School Council will be planning our Comic Relief Day this year. More information will be sent out after half term.

Achievement Assemblies are held at the end of each half term. We text parents whose children have received an award during the half term. However ALL parents are welcome to attend. Dates and times are available on our school calendar. The assemblies are usually on the last day at 9.30am, but this can vary if other events are taking place, so it is always worth checking the website.

Dear Parents,

It is another busy few weeks with lots going on. The school choir have just performed in Manchester at the Young Voices concert. They were absolutely fantastic—we are so proud of all of them. I would like to say thank you so much to the staff, parent helpers and everyone who came to support the children. We are very grateful. If you would like to see the children in action, please go to our school Facebook page for photos and videos of the evening.



I would like to also take this opportunity to remind you that the Local Authority's **Code of Conduct for issuing Penalty Notices for unauthorised absence**, is still having an impact for parents wishing to take their children out of school during term time. We have received Interim Guidance from the Local Authority,

which I have explained in more detail on page 3. Please come and talk to me if you would like further information.



Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

E. Allbutt

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 7th February 6pm

Year 4 Standon Bowers Parents' Meeting

Monday 20th—Friday 24th February

HALF TERM

Wednesday 1st March

Nursery WOW day—Woodland Warriors

Eucharist Service 2.00 pm

Wednesday 8th March

Red WOW day—Woodland Warriors

Tuesday 7th March 6pm

PTFA meeting

Wednesday 8th/Thursday 9th March

Parents' Evening

Tuesday 21st / Wednesday 22nd March

Mother's Day Gift Sale

Thursday 23rd March

Mother's Day Café Event

Friday 24th March

Comic Relief

Monday 3rd April

New Dinner Prices start—£2.20 per day

Wednesday 5th April

Hot Cross Fun Day

Thursday 6th April

Easter Disco



Main Entrance Problems...

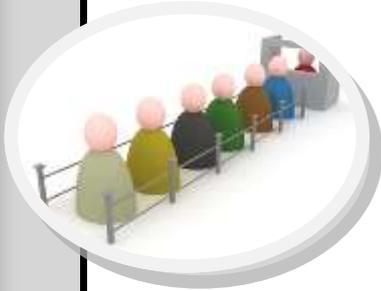
As you are aware, our main school entrance is very small, and is extremely busy in the mornings when children are arriving at school.

Please can we remind all parents that children may come into school from 8.50am, but all children need to come into the school via the main playground (for Year 1 upwards) or the Reception and Nursery entrances.

Please do not send your children into school through the main entrance in the morning.

Children will only be accepted through the main entrance when they are late, and the other entrances have been closed.

Children's entrances will be open until just after 9am.



KIDS CLUB

Kids Club direct number is 483241. If you receive a call from them however, 483235 is displayed on your phone. This is something we cannot change, unfortunately. Please bear in mind, that if you miss a call from school, it may well be from Kids Club!

Headlice

Please can you check **your children's hair** regularly.

Headlice is always a problem in school. Please call into school if you would like advice on how **to treat your child's hair** if headlice are found.

Please bring the correct money when paying dinner money, fruit and milk money etc. at the school office. We have very little change kept on the school premises and we are not able to provide change very easily. It also helps us to reduce the queues in the morning.

For your information, we are currently exploring moving to ParentPay, to replace cash collection within school. We will be sending more information about this after half term.

NURSERY ADMISSIONS

If you have a child who is due to start Nursery in September 2016, you need to register online NOW. Applications for a place in Nursery close on 5th March 2016. If your child is in Pre-Nursery, you still need to apply for a place online.

A red rectangular sign with a white crown icon at the top. Below the crown, the text reads "We Need Your Help Please" in white, bold, sans-serif font, with "Your" in a smaller font size between "Need" and "Help".

We
Need
Your
Help
Please

At the start and end of the school day we would like your children to be as safe as possible. In addition, we would also like our school grounds and staff cars to remain damage free. Therefore, please can you ensure that your children

do not play around the cars in the staff car park at the start and end of the school day. We would also appreciate it if you did not allow your children to go onto the grass banks at the front and side of the school, or play with the outside equipment by the Nursery or on the Nursery playground. We hope that you understand that we wish to keep your children safe, and also wish to maintain our grounds and resources in good condition.

Attendance, Absence and the Staffordshire Code of Conduct

As you may be aware, there is an ongoing legal court case regarding term time unauthorised absence from school. Staffordshire local authority's has issued interim guidance regarding the issuing of Penalty Notices for unauthorised absence until the outcome of this court case is known. As a Staffordshire school, we HAVE to follow these guidelines. If you are considering taking your child out of school for a holiday please read the local authority guidance below, and come and talk to us if you have any questions or concerns.

Circumstances where a Penalty Notice may be issued:

- A Penalty Notice can only be issued in cases of unauthorised absence.
- Use of a Penalty Notice or formal warning of a Penalty Notice for unauthorised absence will be restricted to one notice/ warning per parent of a pupil per academic year.
- There will be *no limit* on the times a Penalty Notice for unauthorised *leave* of absence can be used in an academic year.
- In cases where there is more than one pupil in a family with unauthorised absences, Penalty Notices may be issued for more than one child.
- The presence of an excluded child in a public place at any time during school hours in the first five days of exclusion.

Penalty Notices may be considered for *persistent* absence when the following is met:

- There are at least 20 sessions (10 school days) lost due to unauthorised absence during the current and previous term. These absences do not need to be consecutive.
- The Headteacher requests that the Local Authority issue a Penalty Notice to parents, when students **are taken out of school for 5 or more day's holiday or leave of absence without school authorisation.**

Penalty Notice for leave of absence (holiday) in term time

- There must be a minimum of 20 sessions (10 school days) of unauthorised absence from school during the period of two consecutive half terms.
- This absence must include at least 10 sessions of unauthorised leave (holiday). The remaining 10 sessions may relate to other unauthorised absence. The absences do not have to be consecutive.

Medicines in School

We are happy to administer *prescribed* medicines in school, but are unable to administer non-prescribed medicine.

Please complete a medical form. Copies are available from the office or on our website.

As we have lots of medicine to administer every day, we would appreciate it if you did not send in medicine that needs to be given 3 times a day, *unless your child attends Kids Club*, as this can be administered at home (in the morning, at home time and last thing at night).

Collections from School during the Day.

There are times when you may need to collect your children during the school day e.g. dental or medical appointments.

If you do need to collect children during the day, please be aware that our school office is not always manned during lunch times. If you are able to avoid collections from 12.30pm to 1pm, it would be helpful to us, and would prevent you waiting until another member of staff hears the bell!

If you do need to collect at that time, please let us know, and we will make suitable arrangements.

All Saints' CE(A) First School

Cheadle Road
Leek
Staffs
ST13 5QY

Phone: 01538 483235

Fax: 01538 483236

E-mail: office@allsaints-leek.staffs.sch.uk

Scooters in School

We have a new cycle/scooter rack located outside the school office.

If your child would like to cycle/scoot to school they are welcome to use the rack during the school day.

We would ask, however, that they dismount at the top of the drive and walk down the drive with their cycle/scooter for safety reasons.

New School Website

All Saints' First School has a new school website. You can access our website at:

www.allsaints-leek.staffs.sch.uk

You can find out lots about our school on the site, including:

- Current and previous newsletters
- **Latest school news and 'live' news (e.g. school closures)**
- A parents calendar
- Frequently asked questions
- Policies
- Useful documents e.g. holiday forms, ear-ring permission letters, medicine forms
- Gallery of photos

Adding our website and our Facebook page to your favourites is a good way of keeping up to date with what is happening in school.



www.facebook.com/allsaintsleek